

Department of Commerce Occupational Safety and Health Report



August 2004

**Department of Commerce
Office of Occupational Safety and Health
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Room 5111
Washington, DC 20230**

Telephone (202) 482-4935

Executive Summary

Introduction

The Department of Commerce (DOC) Office of Occupational Safety and Health (OOSH) is proud to debut the monthly Occupational Safety and Health Program Report for August 2004. The new layout adds an executive report that provides DOC management and staff Departmental performance measures consistent with the President's Safety, Health and Return-to-Employment (SHARE) initiative launched on January 9, 2004, where each Federal department and agency is directed to: lower workplace injury and illness rates; lower lost-time injury and illness case rates; ensure timely reporting of injuries and illness; and decrease lost days.

Additionally, the new report provides bureau news, analysis, solutions and highlights DOC occupational safety and health programmatic efforts throughout DOC.

Performance Measures and Analysis

DOC reported 256 injury and illness cases during FY 2004 year-to-date (YTD), 106 that were lost-time cases (See Figure 1).

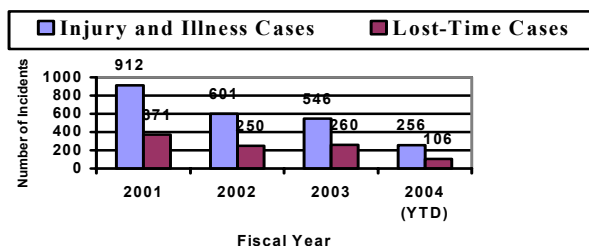


Figure 1. Total injury and illness cases and total lost-time cases for the past 4 fiscal years (YTD).

If the year-to-date data is extrapolated throughout the year, DOC will realize a 5.1 percent decrease of injury and illness claims and a 17.1 percent decrease of lost-time claims when compared to FY 2003.

When the data in Figure 1 is converted to rates for comparison across agencies, the injury and illness case rate was 0.69 and the lost-time case rate was 0.28 for FY 2004 YTD (See Figure 2). If the year-to-date data is extrapolated the Department will realize a 5.4 percent decrease in injury and illness rates and 20 percent decrease lost-time case rates when compared to FY 2003.

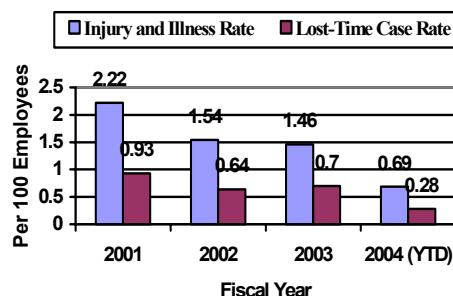


Figure 2. Total injury and illness case rates and total lost-time case rates for the past 4 fiscal years (YTD).

For FY 2004 (YTD) slips, trips, falls, and struck by incidents make up 58 percent of the injury and illness types reported this year and continue to be DOC's main source of injuries and illness claims. Information on all types of injuries is provided in Figure 3. To address these issues, OOSH is working on an awareness program that can be exported to the Bureaus and agencies.

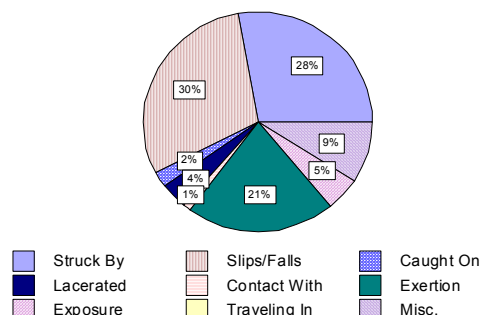


Figure 3. Injury type as a percentage of total injuries FY 2004 (YTD).

Consistent with the President's SHARE initiative, DOC is now measuring average lost production workdays, which is the average number of workdays lost due to an injury or illness. Our goal for FY 2004 is 20.7 lost production days. To date, DOC has seen a 10 percent increase in lost production days when compared to FY 2003 (See Figure 4). This increase may be attributed to the agencies' slowness to process workers' compensation (WC) claims after an injury or illness which creates delays in medical services rendered and ultimately extends the time a worker is not at work. Timeliness of processing injury and illness claims is addressed in Figure 5.

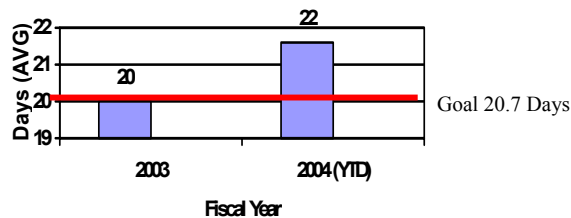


Figure 4. Lost production days for the past 2 fiscal years (YTD).

Figure 5 depicts the average time it takes for DOC to process mandatory WC paperwork to the Department of Labor's (DOL) Office of Workers' Compensation Program (OWCP), where the standard is 14 calendar days.

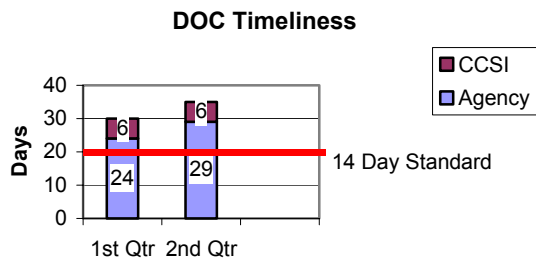


Figure 5. Timeliness of processing injury and illness claims.

During both quarters of FY 2004, DOC has exceeded the 14-day reporting period to OWCP, where the delays are related to the Department's slowness to fill out and forward the required WC paperwork to DOL. As depicted in Figure 5, DOC agencies and bureaus take 24-29 days to forward claims to the Department's claims manager, Contract Claims Services Inc. (CCSI), who then process the claims to DOL within 6 days. To improve WC processing, OOSH is measuring bureau and agency timeliness to target and provide standardized WC training next quarter. During the long-term, OOSH is working with DOL to review their Safety Health Information Management System (SHIMS) to improve timeliness.

FY 2004 YTD, DOC's WC costs are \$7,482,235. If the data is extrapolated throughout the year, the Department's WC costs appear to be stabilizing with FY 2003 costs (See Figure 6), which was a 4.2 percent decrease from FY 2002. To realize further reductions DOC is working with DOL to expedite claims processing with SHIMS, and DOC instituted an innovative approach to controvert WC claims.

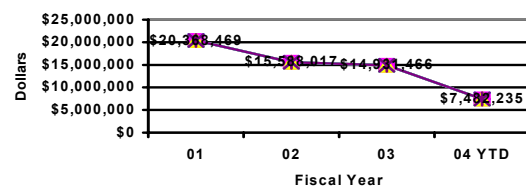


Figure 6. Workers' compensation costs for the past 4 fiscal years (YTD).

Additionally, the DOC's Continuation of Pay (COP) costs appear to be stabilizing where FY 2004 YTD COP costs have resulted in a total of \$156,603 (See Figure 7). DOC is working with DOL to establish a new process to controvert claims to continue potential reductions in COP costs.

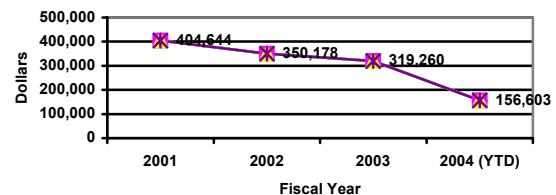


Figure 7. COP costs for the past 4 fiscal years (YTD).

OOSH received 56 responses to the monthly DOC Safety and Health survey. Table 1 provides data from 55 responders indicating the continued perception that there is a lack of safety and health improvements within DOC. OOSH is developing an improved survey to clearly identify potential areas of concern and improvement.

Have you noticed any safety and health improvements in your work area or in DOC as a whole during this the second quarter?		
Answer	Response	Percent
No	36	65.45%
Yes	19	34.55%

Table 1. Safety and health survey.

Bureau News

At the *National Institute of Standards and Technology* (NIST), a "Safety Day" was held at their Gaithersburg, Maryland, headquarters on June 21, 2004. The theme was "Soakin' Up Safety," and the

event was held in conjunction with the Maryland Safety Council. Over 20 vendors participated, who presented a wide variety of safety and health equipment, training courses, and other occupational safety and health related materials. A representative from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) provided guidance and handouts on how to prevent slip, trip and fall accidents, safe driving, radiation safety, and other topics. A representative from the U.S. Department of Labor provided a presentation on the President's Safety, Health and Return-to-Employment (SHARE) initiative, and the president of the Maryland Safety Council spoke about motivating people to work safely. The event was well attended, and 750 questionnaires asking for feedback were handed out. Over 500 of the questionnaires were returned, which included favorable comments about the event, and provided suggestions for next year's "Safety Day."

NIST has restructured their New Employee Safety and Health Training to include 1-½ hours of OSH orientation to new employees. This training is provided at both the Gaithersburg, Maryland, and Boulder, Colorado, sites, and at Boulder, new National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) employees also receive this training.

At the *Census Bureau*, Shelter-In-Place (SIP) exercises were conducted in all seven Headquarters buildings. These were the first such exercises at the Census Bureau to familiarize employees with SIP procedures and to identify areas which may need additional planning and procedures implemented. In preparation for the SIP exercises, the Census Bureau Safety Office canvassed the headquarters facilities and consulted with GSA and an expert from NIST to determine preferred SIP locations to protect employees from weather-related and/or chemical or biological threats. The exercises were conducted in an orderly and efficient manner. The lessons learned from the exercises will enable Census Bureau management to fine-tune SIP Procedures.

The *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration* (NOAA) has seen a decline in their lost-time injury rates over the past several months, which will result in a decrease of the Department's overall injury rates, and a reduction of WC costs. The new NOAA Director of Environmental Compliance, Safety and Security, Mr. Bruce Zaczynski, believes this reduction is due to a significant increase in safety awareness in the field, which NOAA has initiated, and the inclusion of "near

miss" incidents in their accident investigation and reporting.

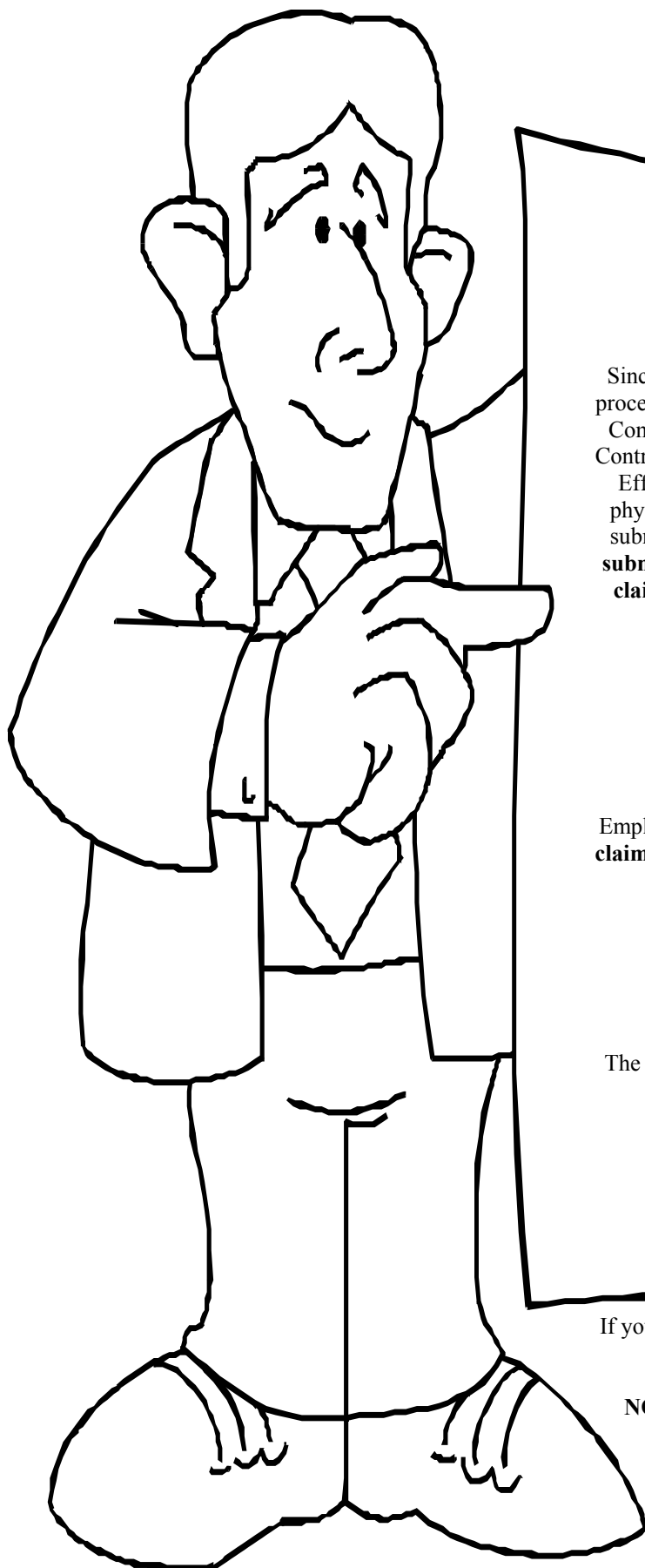
At the *Bureau of Industry and Security* (BIS), several new initiatives have been implemented to enhance their safety and health program. These initiatives include a new audio-visual program to promote their OSH program and increase safety awareness, a new brochure which describes the BIS OSH program and how employees can participate, a quarterly OSH newsletter sent electronically which provides seasonal OSH tips and current BIS WC data, and a new safety poster, which will be distributed throughout the bureau. Additionally, new OSH training programs have been developed, which include a New Employee Orientation for BIS law enforcement officers, accident prevention guidance, and a session on WC for supervisors. A new BIS Safety and Health Committee has been formed which includes representatives from throughout the bureau.

All of these initiatives are welcome enhancements to our occupational safety and health program, and will further our goal of providing safe and healthy workplaces, and reducing injuries. The Department's OSH program needs the cooperation of all employees to achieve these goals.

DOC Occupational Safety and Health Highlights

Currently, DOC has received programmatic funding to support the DOC OOSH vision "The Way Ahead." DOC is developing partnerships and leveraging resources with DOL, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Army to standardize OSH program oversight and eliminate workplace injuries and their associated costs through the President's SHARE initiative.

Please note: the DOC Quarterly OSH Council meeting has moved from the 2nd Thursday of the month to the 3rd Thursday. The next DOC OSH Council meeting is Thursday, Oct 21, 2004, 1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M., HCHB, ROOM 6800.



IMPORTANT WORKERS' COMPENSATION NEWS

Since October 1, 2002, the workers' compensation processing and liaison services for the Department of Commerce has been provided by a private vendor, Contract Claims Services, Incorporated (CCSI, L.P.).

Effective August 9, 2004, CCSI will have a new physical address. In order to ensure timely claims submission, supervisors should use this address to **submit all initial claims (CA-1's and CA-2's) and claims for disability compensation (CA-7's) by Federal Express** to the new address:

CCSI, L.P.

**300 E. Royal Lane
Suite 200**

Irving, TX 75039

Employees and/or supervisors should **send all other claims-related documents** to the current Post Office Box:

CCSI, L.P.

P.O. Box 542528

Dallas, TX 7534-2528

The contact numbers at CCSI, L.P., will remain the same:

Telephone: 1-800-743-2231

FAX: 1-888-467-1273

If you have any question or concerns, please contact
Kathy Mattingly at (202) 482-0689

**NOTE: THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO THE
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Occupational Safety and Health Report

August 2004

Introduction

This report complements the Executive Summary and provides an update to Department of Commerce (DOC) managers and employees on the progress of Departmental safety and occupational health initiatives and information regarding important Departmentwide safety and occupational health issues for July 2004. The report also contains the latest available accident data for the Department. Section One of the report, Program Updates and Safety and Health Tips, provides updates on the safety and occupational health initiatives. Section Two, Injury Statistics, provides statistics regarding Department injuries, as reported to the Workers' Compensation (WC) Program for July 2004, and an analysis of the data to assist bureaus in focusing their safety efforts. Section Three, Survey Results, provides the August results from the online survey available through the intranet Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Program Web Site.

Section One: Program Updates and Safety and Health Tips

OSH Officer Profile: To gain a better understanding of individuals performing OSH functions throughout the Department, the Office of Occupational Safety and Health (OOSH) distributed an OSH Officer Profile to all DOC safety and health staff in May. Approximately 200 responses to the questionnaire were received, which provided a comprehensive summary of the daily tasks performed by full-time and Collateral Duty OSH (CDSO) personnel, as well as the training and resources available to them. The survey found that the level of OSH training varies among Bureaus. The daily tasks reflected the same diversity of specialization. By identifying OSH tasks and needs, opportunities for sharing skills and resources throughout the Department will be enhanced.

Standardizing OSH Business Practices: The OOSH is currently evaluating two automated systems to help standardize procedures and enhance the efficiency of major OSH programs. The first system, The Compliance and Process Tracking (CPTrack) system, is a web-based self-assessment and reporting program which will assist facilities in assessing their OSH program's compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements. The program also prepares a variety of reports for use in, briefings, planning and response to data calls. CPTrack was developed by the Army Corps of Engineers Engineering Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory and is currently being used by other Federal agencies to assist in managing their OSH programs.

The second system, the Safety and Health Information System (SHIMS), is a web-based occupational injury, illness, workers' compensation, and accident reporting and management system. Once implemented, it will replace the current paper-based workers' compensation process with a fully-automated system, connected directly to the Office of Workers'

Compensation (OWCP). The program also collects all elements required by the OSHA record-keeping standard and generates logs of occupational injuries and illnesses. The development of the program was a joint project of OWCP and OSHA, ensuring that the single program captures and provides reports required by both organizations.

Updated DAO 209-3: Departmental Administrative Order (DAO) 209-3, “Injury, Illness, Accident and Fatality Investigation and Reporting,” has been updated to reflect new OSHA requirements for the reporting of occupational fatalities, or the hospitalization of three or more employees, and to include new definitions and reworded procedures to provide clear and concise instructions. The DAO requires that a form CD-137, “Report of Injury, Illness, Accident or Fatality,” be completed within 5 working days following a recordable injury, illness, or accident and submitted to the OOSH, employee’s supervisor and the unit’s Safety Representative. It also requires that the OOSH be called immediately following an occupational fatality or an incident which results in the hospitalization of three or more employees. The updated version of DAO 209-3 will be posted on the Departmental web site after final approval and clearance.

Revised CD-137: In conjunction with the updating of DAO 209-3, form CD-137, “Report of Injury, Illness, Accident or Fatality,” is currently being revised to include additional questions concerning the cause(s) of the incident, a description of the corrective actions that will be taken to prevent recurrence, and meet new OSHA reporting requirements. This information will assist OSH managers and supervisors in their investigations and help identify trends. To ensure that this form is properly completed and distributed, a set of instructions for the CD-137 is currently being developed. After the new CD-137 and the instructions have been finalized, they will be posted on the Departmental web site. Additionally, a Broadcast e-mail will be sent announcing the newly revised CD-137 and instructions, and electronic copies of both will be provided with the Broadcast e-mail.

Section Two: Injury Statistics

This section provides information on the total number of Departmental injuries for the past 5 years and analyzes the types of injuries across the Department. The information in Chart 1 reflects statistics through July 2004. Due to late submissions, processing limitations, and to ensure the accuracy of the information, this section will continue to include information up to the previous month. The data presented in the charts and tables are based upon Departmental workers’ compensation Program records.

Incidence Rate: The incidence rate (IR) represents the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers and is calculated as follows:

$$IR = \frac{N}{EH}(200,000)$$

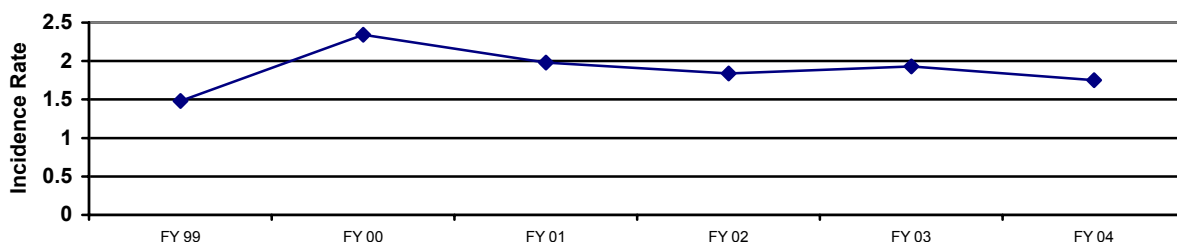
N	=	Number of injuries and illnesses
EH	=	Total hours worked by all employees during the year ¹
200,000	=	Base for 100 equivalent full-time workers (40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year)

The Commerce WC Program keeps records of all injury and illness claims, including those that did not include any lost-work time. An accounting of all incidents allows followup and more comprehensive program review by safety representatives. However, the incident rates from those records are not directly comparable, since they include many minor injuries and illnesses that are not considered “work-related” under Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards for private industry. Injury rates may be skewed as safety awareness increases and employees are encouraged to report all injuries, causing total injury rates to increase despite improvements to safety. Using standardized OSHA recordable incident reporting helps to reduce inconsistent reporting. An OSHA recordable incident is a work-related injury or illness that resulted in one or more of the following: medical treatment beyond first aid, a significant injury or illness diagnosed by a physician or other licensed health care professional, days away from work, restricted work or transfer to another job, loss of consciousness, or death.

Table 1A provides data that corresponds to the OSHA recordable injury criteria. The remaining tables and charts include data for all cases submitted to the WC Program.

Chart 1

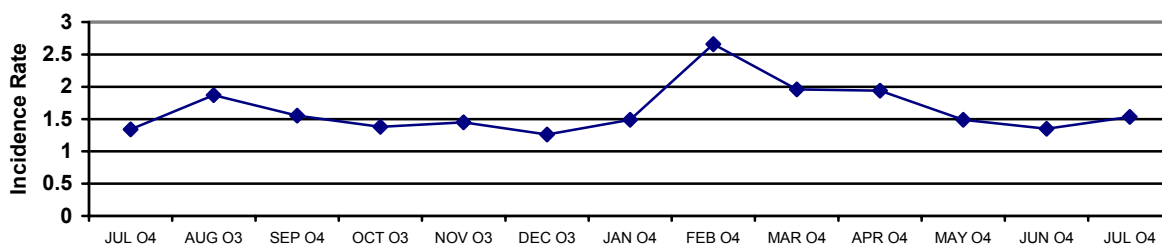
Historical Total Case Incidence Rate Trend (TCIR)



¹ The total hours worked were determined based on the total number of employees and the average hours.

Chart 2

Monthly Case Incidence Rate Trend (TCIR)

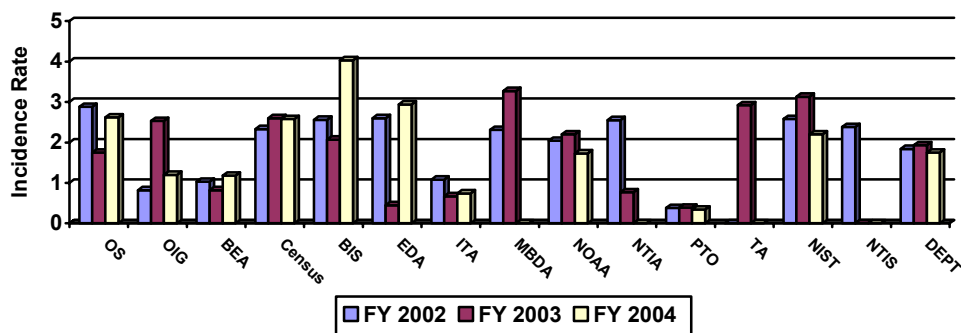


Major Findings include:

- **The FY 2004 Total Case Incidence Rate (TCIR) to date for DOC is down from the rate for FY 2003 and FY 2002.** The TCIR is 1.75 (see Chart 1) for FY 2004, 1.93 for FY 2003, and 1.84 for FY 2002. A total of 505 total injuries were reported thus far for FY 2004 (see Table 1).
- **Of the larger bureaus (i.e., bureaus with more than 500 employees) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) had lower TCIRs to date for FY 2004 when compared to FY 2003 (see Chart 3).**
- **Of the smaller bureaus (i.e., bureaus with less than 500 employees), only 22 injuries were reported to date in FY 2004.**
- **The Total Recordable Case Incidence Rate (TRCIR) for DOC is down from previous years.** The TRCIRs for DOC are 1.41 for FY 2004, 1.48 for FY 2003 and 1.60 for FY 2002 (see Table 1A).

Chart 3

Total Case Incidence Rate Comparison (TCIR)



Types of Injuries: Many of the injuries reported can be prevented through improved safety awareness and proper maintenance. A Departmental and bureau focus on eliminating injuries and illnesses continues to be essential. Evaluating the types of claims submitted and structuring safety awareness training programs to eliminate accidents can assist in the mitigation of injuries and illnesses. Information on types of injuries is provided in Charts 4 and 5 and Tables 2 and 2A.

- **“Slips/Falls” injuries accounted for 31 percent of all injuries in FY 2003 (see Chart 4). The trend is lower when compared to 28 percent of injuries reported to date in FY 2004 (see Chart 5).** Many of the slips and falls reported in FY 2004 were attributed to slips and falls in the entrances and hallways. Also, equipment left on walking surfaces caused several trips and falls. Employees should use caution and be attentive to the condition of walking surfaces.
- **“Struck By” injuries accounted for 22 percent of those reported in FY 2003 (see Chart 4). To date, FY 2004 “struck by” injuries have increased to 26 percent (see Chart 5).** Most of the struck by injuries were caused by objects in the workplace not being used or stored correctly, and drawer and file cabinets left open. Employees should close drawers and cabinets when not in use.
- **“Exertion” injuries accounted for 25 percent of all injuries in the DOC for FY 2003.** During FY 2004 “exertion” injuries accounted for 25 percent of all annual injuries to date demonstrating a reversing trend. To continue this trend, OOSH requests that employees use a cart to move heavy objects and/or seek the assistance of DOC movers.

Chart 4
Injury Type As Percentage of Total Injuries for FY 2003

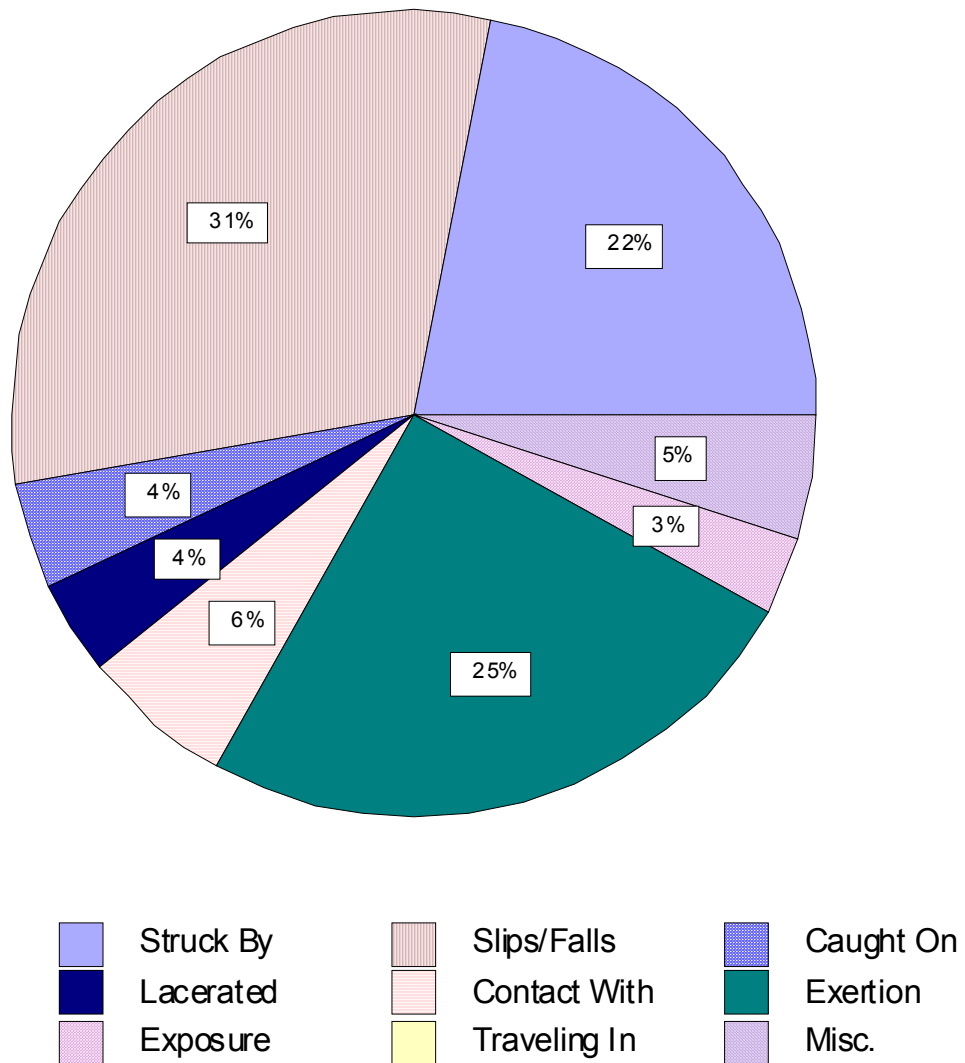


Chart 5
Injury Type As Percentage of Total Injuries “to date” for FY 2004

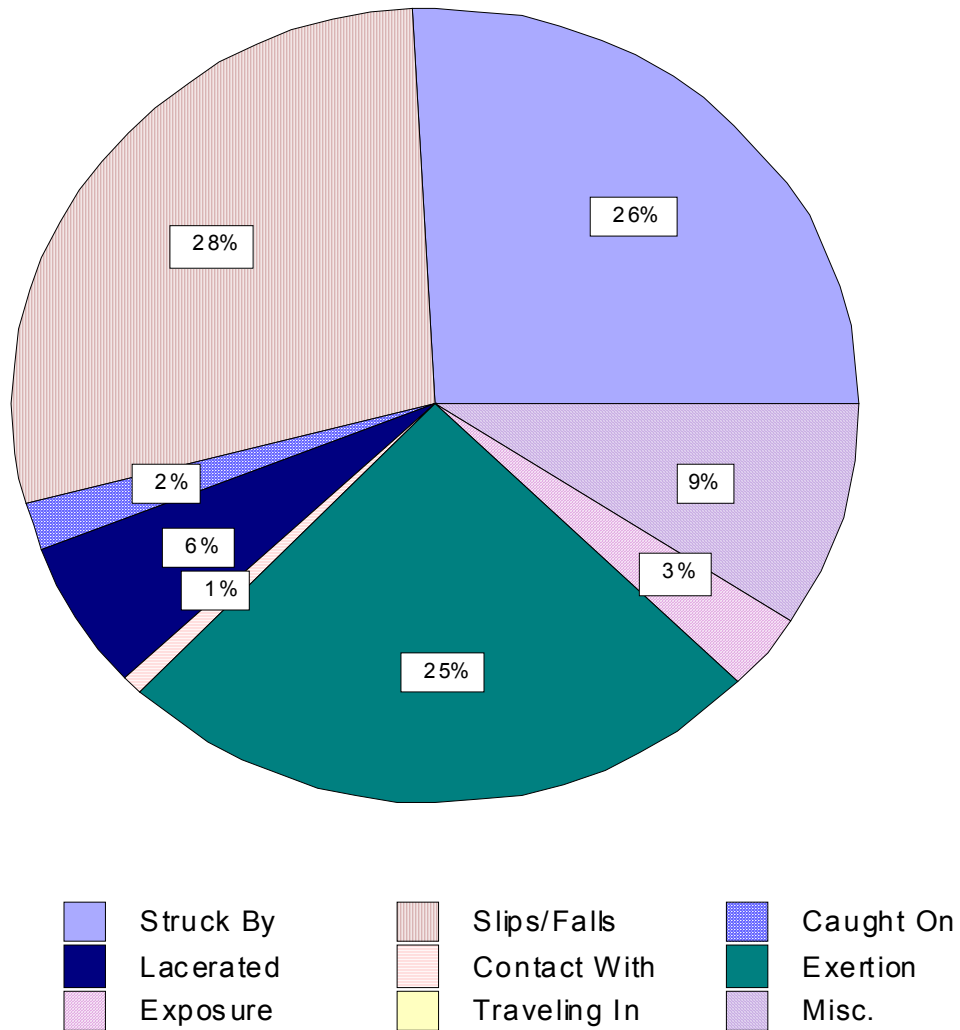


TABLE 1
TOTAL CASE INCIDENCE RATE* (TCIR)

Bureau	FY1999		FY2000		FY2001		FY2002		FY2003		June 2004		July 2004		FY 2004 (To Date)	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Office of the Secretary	19	2.20*	35	3.94	22	2.47	23	2.88	14	1.75	1	1.54	4	6.17	17	2.62
Office of Inspector General	2	1.32	4	2.98	3	2.15	1	0.82	3	2.53	0	0	0	0	1	1.20
Bureau of Economic Analysis	4	0.88	1	0.23	5	1.12	4	1.03	4	0.82	0	0	0	0	5	1.18
Bureau of the Census	311	1.04	383	2.83	393	2.41	241	2.33	252	2.60	15	1.70	19	2.15	228	2.58
Bureau of Industry and Security	11	3.08	15	4.06	9	2.44	9	2.56	7	2.07	0	0	2	7.33	11	4.03
Economic Development Administration	9	3.67	4	1.69	5	2.08	6	2.60	1	0.45	0	0	2	11.75	5	2.94
International Trade Administration	18	0.92	24	1.23	12	0.62	18	1.08	11	0.67	1	0.74	1	0.74	10	0.74
Minority Business Development Agency	1	1.10	3	3.40	4	4.36	2	2.31	3	3.27	0	0	0	0	0	0
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	317	2.78	307	2.69	247	2.18	228	2.04	246	2.20	14	1.49	11	1.17	162	1.73
National Telecommunications & Information Administration	2	0.88	2	0.87	7	3.03	6	2.55	2	0.77	0	0	0	0	0	0
Patent and Trademark Office	27	0.47	29	0.50	31	0.55	24	0.38	24	0.39	1	0.20	0	0	17	0.34
Technology Administration	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.92	0	0	0	0	0	0
National Institute of Standards and Technology	84	2.87	79	2.82	68	2.34	76	2.58	90	3.13	7	3.14	5	2.24	49	2.20
National Technical Information Service	6	2.61	4	2.15	1	0.52	4	2.38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	811	1.48	890	2.34	807	1.98	642	1.84	658	1.93	39	1.35	44	1.53	505	1.75
Decennial Census 2000	890	11.3	4798	6.7	32	13.3										

* Total Case Incidence Rate includes all cases reported to the Workers' Compensation Program.

Note: Population fluctuations can have a serious positive or negative impact on the Total Case Incidence Rate.

TABLE 1A
TOTAL RECORDABLE CASE INCIDENCE RATE* (TRCIR)

Bureau	FY1999		FY 2000		FY2001		FY 2002		FY2003		June 2004		July 2004		FY 2004 (To Date)	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Office of the Secretary	19	2.20*	30	3.38	17	1.91	22	2.75	12	1.50	1	1.54	3	4.62	15	2.31
Office of Inspector General	1	0.66	3	2.24	3	2.15	1	0.82	3	2.53	0	0	0	0	1	1.20
Bureau of Economic Analysis	4	0.88	0	0	5	1.12	3	0.77	3	0.62	0	0	0	0	5	1.18
Bureau of the Census	288	0.96	345	2.55	332	2.04	212	2.05	184	1.90	13	1.47	19	2.15	186	2.11
Bureau of Industry and Security	10	2.80	13	3.52	8	2.17	9	2.56	7	2.07	0	0	2	7.33	9	3.30
Economic Development Administration	8	3.26	4	1.69	5	2.08	6	2.60	0	0	0	0	2	11.75	5	2.94
International Trade Administration	17	0.86	22	1.13	11	0.57	10	0.60	11	0.67	1	0.74	1	0.74	9	0.66
Minority Business Development Agency	1	1.10	2	2.27	4	4.36	2	2.31	2	2.18	0	0	0	0	0	0
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	275	2.41	289	2.53	225	1.98	203	1.81	196	1.75	12	1.28	10	1.07	133	1.42
National Telecommunications & Information Administration	2	0.88	2	0.87	5	2.16	3	1.27	2	0.77	0	0	0	0	0	0
Patent and Trademark Office	26	0.45	29	0.50	31	0.55	24	0.38	24	0.39	1	0.20	0	0	17	0.34
Technology Administration	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.92	0	0	0	0	0	0
National Institute of Standards and Technology	76	2.60	66	2.36	55	1.89	59	2.00	58	2.01	3	1.35	4	1.79	28	1.26
National Technical Information Service	5	2.18	4	2.15	1	0.52	3	1.78	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	732	1.34	809	2.13	702	1.72	557	1.60	503	1.48	31	1.07	41	1.42	408	1.41
Decennial Census 2000	890	11.3	4798	6.7	32	13.3										

* The Total Recordable Case Incidence Rate includes only those injuries or illnesses that are reportable to OSHA under 29 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1904.
Note: Population fluctuations can have a serious positive or negative impact on the Total Reported Case Incidence Rate.

Table 2
INJURY TYPES BY BUREAU
AGENCIES WITH MORE THAN 500 EMPLOYEES
Through July 2004

BUREAU	NOAA			CENSUS**			NIST			PTO			ITA			OS			TOTAL
Fiscal Year	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04	
Struck By/Against An Object	29	55	46	27	45	55	8	26	19	4	5	2	1	3	0	2	3	1	331
Falls/Slips	59	59	32	96	96	75	22	21	12	7	12	5	7	6	6	2	2	5	524
Caught On An Object	5	12	4	8	3	0	2	7	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	48
Cuts/Bites	26	5	6	19	19	17	9	1	2	2	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	111
Contact With An Object	19	5	0	11	5	5	6	0	0	6	4	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	64
Exertion/ Motion	64	73	46	37	51	52	17	22	10	2	2	6	2	0	3	1	8	5	401
Exposure To Chemicals/ Elements	9	9	4	6	18	11	3	3	1	1	0	0	6	1	0	12	0	1	85
Traveling In Car/Metro/ Taxi	10	0	0	16	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
Miscellaneous*	7	22	24	21	10	13	8	8	3	2	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	4	126
TOTAL	228	240	162	241	247	228	76	88	49	24	24	17	18	11	10	23	14	17	1717

* Miscellaneous includes injuries not covered in the standard OSHA types of injuries. These include twisting/bending injuries, emotional/psychological stress injuries, injuries which exacerbate a preexisting condition resulting in conditions such as heart attack, seizures, and stroke.

** Decennial Census claims were omitted to provide a clearer picture of injury trends

Table 2A
INJURY TYPES BY BUREAU
AGENCIES WITH LESS THAN 500 EMPLOYEES
Through July 2004

BUREAU	OIG			ESA/BEA			EDA			TA			NTIS			NTIA			MBDA			BIS			Total
Fiscal Year	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04	02	03	04	
Struck By/Against An Object	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	17
Falls/Slips	0	1	0	2	1	1	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	4	24
Caught On An Object	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3
Cuts/Bites	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contact with an Object	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	5
Exertion/ Motion	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	3	16
Exposure To Chemicals/ Elements	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Traveling In Car/Metro/ Taxi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Miscellaneous*	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	8
Total	1	3	1	4	4	5	6	1	5	0	1	0	4	0	0	6	2	0	2	3	0	9	7	11	75

* Miscellaneous includes injuries not covered in the standard OSHA types of injuries. These include twisting/bending injuries, emotional/psychological stress injuries, injuries which exacerbate a preexisting condition resulting in conditions such as heart attack, seizures, and stroke.

Section Three: Survey Results

We continue to receive comments through the Safety and Health Survey web site. We are using employee comments to help shape a safety program responsive to employee issues and concerns. The web site can be accessed through the Office of Human Resources Management (OHRM) homepage at <http://ohrm.doc.gov/>.

Safety Survey Statistics

We received 56 responses to August's survey. The following tables provide data regarding the distribution of responses by bureau and general geographical area, as well as general safety impressions. The OSH survey provides feedback from the DOC community we serve and provides an additional insight on whether or not Departmental OSH programs and initiatives are active.

Table 3a
Safety and Health Survey
July Results

Have you experienced a safety lapse in your work area during the past 3 months?		
Answer	Response	Percent
No	46	82.14%
Yes	10	17.86%

Table 3b
Safety and Health Survey
July Results

Have you noticed any safety improvements in your work area or in the Department as a whole during the past 3 months?		
Answer	Response	Percent
No	36	65.45%
Yes	19	34.55%

Table 3b indicates the continued perception that there is a lack of safety improvements within the Department. Where over 82.14 percent of the responses are associated with the Department's three major bureaus NOAA, CENSUS, and PTO respectively (see Table 3d).

In response to the perception that there is a lack of safety and health improvements within the Department, the OSH Council organized an OSH survey-working group to develop a method to respond and track issues related to the safety and health survey.

The OSH survey-working group (NOAA, Census, PTO, and ITA) provided a draft copy of the revised OSH survey to OHRM's information technology (IT) office. The OHRM IT office will begin the development of the new OSH survey. A follow-on meeting with the working group is currently being scheduled to ensure all requirements are identified and to provide additional information to support required data fields. The group will be requesting information and input from each bureau and/or agency to finalize the survey.

Table 3c
Safety and Health Survey
July Results by Geographic Area

Geographical Location		
State	Response	Percent
AK	1	1.79%
CA	2	3.57%
DC	5	8.93%
FL	3	5.36%
GA	1	1.79%
IN	1	1.79%
MD	21	37.50%
MN	1	1.79%
NC	1	1.79%
RI	1	1.79%
VA	18	32.14%
WA	1	1.79%

Table 3d
Safety and Health Survey
July Results by Bureau/Agency

Bureau Breakdown		
Bureau	Response	Percent
BEA	1	1.79%
BXA	1	1.79%
CENSUS	11	19.64%
EDA	1	1.79%
ITA	2	3.57%
NIST	4	7.14%
NOAA	20	35.71%
NTIA	1	1.79%
PTO	15	26.79%

